

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4069

INFO ERDA GERMANTOWN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 18011

LIMDIS

USEC FOR RUBIN; ERDA FOR SIEVERING AND GILLER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, GW

SUBJECT: US-FRG PHYSICAL SECURITY CONSULTATIONS

1. FRG MINISTRY FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE US-FRG CONSULTATIONS ABOUT PHYSICAL SECURITY OF NUCLEAR FACILITIES. TECHMIN OFFICIAL CONTACTED EMBASSY'S S&T COUNSELOR TO PROPOSE THAT MEETINGS BE ARRANGED AMONG RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PEOPLE ACTIVE IN THIS AREA TO DEVELOP A COMMON UNDERSTANDING, TERMINOLOGY AND EVALUATION OF THE VARIOUS RISKS INVOLVED. HE BELIEVES, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO EVALUATE THE RISK PRESENTED BY R&D FACILITIES OF A GIVEN TYPE AND TO SPECIFY THIS RISK IN TERMS OF THE PHYSICAL AND CHEMICAL FORM OF THE MATERIALS BEING HANDLED, STORED OR PROCESSED. ONE WOULD ASK, "WHAT CAN BE DONE BY A TERRORIST GROUP, IF SUCH MATERIALS WERE STOLEN OR EXPLOSIVELY DISSEMINATED IN THE ENVIRONMENT?"

2. AS A SECOND THEME FOR THESE CONTINUING CONSULTA-
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TIONS, TECHMIN REP SUGGESTED THAT THE RISK OF A

SUCCESSFUL TERRORIST ATTACK ON A GIVEN FACILITY BE EVALUATED AS A FUNCTION OF THE NATURE AND DEGREE OF THE VARIOUS PHYSICAL SECURITY MEASURES BEING APPLIED TO THE FACILITY.

3. TECHMIN REP EMPHASIZED THAT ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUCH CONSULTATIONS SHOULD BE HANDLED THROUGH GOVERNMENT CHANNELS. HE ASKED WHETHER ERDA COULD DESIGNATE AN INDIVIDUAL IN DIVISION OF SAFEGUARDS AND SECURITY OR INTERNATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS TO SERVE AS A POINT OF CONTACT FOR FURTHER EXPLORATION OF THIS CONCEPT. HE MENTIONED W. C. BARTELS AND R. E. CHAPMAN, WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN EARLIER US-FRG DISCUSSIONS.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: EMBOFF ATTEMPTED TO GET A CLEARER PICTURE OF THIS PROPOSAL BUT WITHOUT SUCCESS. IT IS NOT OBVIOUS THAT AN EFFORT TO QUANTIZE RISK IN THIS WAY WOULD BE POSSIBLE. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT ANY EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE MUTUAL US-FRG UNDERSTANDING OF THE PHYSICAL SECURITY PROBLEMS WOULD BE USEFUL. RECOMMEND THAT ERDA DESIGNATE AN INDIVIDUAL AS A POINT OF CONTACT FOR FURTHER DISCUSSIONS. PLEASE ADVISE.
HILLENBRAND

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